

changing the student culture of our Nation, teaching kids to break their code of silence in order to save lives.

Scores of other campaign accomplishments include a parent information program, a network of 24-hour report hotlines across the country, and continued research on the problem of school violence. While there remains much work to be done, the accomplishments of the Ribbon of Promise campaign are very real. But the best result of their work is the safe return of students at the end of each schoolday.

Oregon continues to mourn for the victims of the Thurston shooting. But we also have hope that through the efforts of this outstanding organization, further violence in our State has been prevented. I thank all the volunteers and staff of this great campaign and designate the Ribbon of Promise as a Health Care Hero for Oregon.

IN MEMORY OF AL DAVIS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I wanted to honor the memory of a member of the congressional family whose life was tragically cut short last month. Albert James Davis, who was the Democratic chief economist at the House Ways and Means Committee, died on May 30.

Mr. Davis had served the Congress with distinction since 1984, first as a senior economist with the Democratic staff of the House Budget Committee, then as chief economist for that committee, and finally as chief economist for the Ways and Means Committee.

Although Mr. Davis never worked in the U.S. Senate, his death is a profound personal and professional loss for many Members and staff of the Senate. Mr. Davis was a highly respected and much loved member of the group of policy experts who work largely behind the scenes to provide Members of Congress with information about the policies they are considering. Many Senate staff—and many members of my Budget Committee staff—had worked with Mr. Davis, either directly in the House or through bicameral staff meetings and frequent phone conversations. And although few knew it, many Senators benefitted from Mr. Davis's knowledge and wisdom because of the frequent use made by Senate staff of insightful memos and analyses of important issues that Mr. Davis graciously shared with them.

He was one of the leading experts in the country on issues involving taxes and entitlement programs. Just as important as his deep understanding of these complex issues was his ability to express his thoughts about them in a simple, straightforward way that others—congressional staff, the press, and Members of Congress—could understand. And he could do it in a gracious and humorous way that did not betray any impatience with a listener who might be a little slow to grasp what was being explained.

Mr. Davis was a committed Democrat, but he was more committed to

honest and intelligent analyses of the issues. You could count on him to give you the straight scoop about any issue. He would not fudge the facts just to fit his personal policy preferences. When my staff gave me information from Al Davis, I knew I could rely on it.

The combination of respect and affection that many members of the Senate family had for Al Davis is a testament to his intelligence, his ability, and his huge and warm heart. The Senate was considering the conference report on the reconciliation tax bill when it became known that Mr. Davis was not likely to recover. The sense of sorrow and loss felt by Senate staff on the floor that day was immense. For many of those staff, it was hard to imagine not being able to pick up the phone to ask Al about an issue. They understood the quality of reporting on tax and entitlement issues would be diminished because Al would not be around to explain a complicated issue in a way that the average reader or listener could understand. And they keenly felt the loss of a unique and wonderful person. Many people in the Senate family were touched by Al—benefitted from his knowledge and wisdom and were lucky enough to consider him a friend. He will be greatly missed.

APPOINTMENT OF TIMOTHY A. EICHORN TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues my congratulations to Timothy A. Eichhorn, who on February 25, 2003, was named by the Senate to receive an appointment as a grade of lieutenant colonel to the U.S. Air Force.

I have known the Eichhorn family for many years, and I am pleased to join his family and friends in congratulating Timothy on this momentous occasion. This appointment is clearly a testament to his hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm for military service.

In a time when U.S. Armed Forces are deployed around the world, I am pleased to know that outstanding individuals, such as Timothy Eichhorn, have been called to public service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today in tribute to Wind Cave National Park on the occasion of the park's centennial anniversary.

Nestled in the southeast corner of the Black Hills of South Dakota and adjacent to Custer State Park, Wind Cave has a rich and colorful history that has informed and educated generations of people from around the world.

Wind Cave was established as a national park by President Theodore Roosevelt on January 3, 1903, as the

Nation's seventh national park and the first one created to protect a cave. It was designated as a National Game Preserve on August 10, 1912.

But Wind Cave's history is recorded as part of Black Hills history from the time Native Americans told stories of holes in the ground that blow wind. The first recorded discovery of Wind Cave dates to 1881 when Jesse and Tom Bingham were first attracted to the cave by a whistling noise. As the story goes, wind was blowing out of the cave entrance with such force it blew off Tom's hat. A few days later, when Jesse returned to show the phenomena to some friends, he was astonished to find the wind had changed directions and his hat was sucked into the cave.

Since that time, notable visitors have included Charlie Crary, the first person reported to enter the cave; J.D. McDonald, whose family gave the first cave tours and sold cave formations to J.D.'s son, Alvin; Alvin McDonald, who was the first explorer of the cave and who kept a diary and map of his findings; and "Honest John" Stabler who formed a partnership with the McDonalds to develop the first passages and staircases into Wind Cave. Indeed, the early history of the cave was plentiful and colorful.

William Jennings Bryan and Governor Lee visited the cave in 1892. That same year, one of the first attractions was put on display. For a quarter, visitors could come to the cave and view a 'petrified man' that had been found north of the cave. Over the years, visitors would come to view the natural attractions Wind Cave would have to offer.

Captain Seth Bullock became the cave's first supervisor in 1902, with George Boland serving as the area ranger. South Dakota Congressman Eben W. Martin was instrumental in the designation of Wind Cave as a national park. General John J. Pershing visited in 1910 and took important cave room readings with his pocket aneroid barometer. In 1914, Ester Cleveland Brazell was a ranger guide at the Cave, possibly making her the first woman to hold the title of ranger in the National Park Service. Walt Disney and other film and video companies have produced films in the park and countless rolls of film have been shot by amateur photographers for display in home movies and scrapbooks.

Today, Wind Cave has more than 108 miles of explored and mapped passages, making it the fourth-longest cave in the United States and sixth longest in the world. Well over 5.5 million people have visited Wind Cave over the past 100 years.

The first major improvements in the park were accomplished by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. Wind Cave was one of many important projects CCC workers developed in South Dakota. Many of the projects can still be seen today, including roads, the entrance to the cave, concrete stairs in the cave and the elevator building and shaft.